



8980
PATENT

GAU 216
RECEIVED
DEC 15 2000
Technology Center 2100
A/3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of David C. Carrithers et al. Art Unit 2761
Serial No. 09/399,597
Filed September 20, 1999
For DEBIT CARD SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING INCENTIVE
AWARD PROGRAM

December 7, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application,
please enter the following amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the title on page 1, please add the following:

--Cross Reference to Related Applications

This application is a continuation of prior application
Serial No. 08/969,093, filed November 12, 1997, which is a
continuation of 08/620,041, filed March 21, 1996, which is a
continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/408,690, filed March
21, 1995.--

REMARKS

Applicant notes that it has been 14 months since the filing
of this application on September 20, 1999. Please advise the
undersigned of the status of this application.